# THE 4-X PUZZLER

### FEATURES:

Marriott Contest Report (p 1)

Guess Who's Who in Puzzledom (p 2)

Review: Compleat Cruciverbalist (p 2)

Sound Thinking, competition (p 2)

### **NEW PUZZLES:**

Rebus Cartoons (p 4)

On a First Name Basis, quiz (p 4)

Pen Pals, crossword (p 5)

Chess Search (p 6)

Musical Chairs, cryptic puzzle (p 11)

... AND MORE!

# The Stamford Tournament

The scene was the grand ballroom of the Stamford (Conn.) Marriott Hotel last March, outfitted with long tables, chairs, cardboard dividers—and a large clock with a sweeping second hand. One hundred and twenty-five dyed-in-the-wool crossword fans, from 24 to the "upper 80s" in age, some from as far away as Texas and California, were competing in the 4th Annual American Crossword Puzzle Tournament.

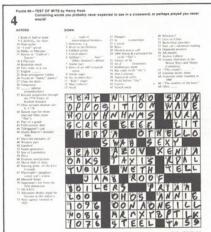
The contest, conducted in an almost lighthearted atmosphere, consisted of seven crosswords varying in time from 15 to 50 minutes. The constructors were William Lutwiniak, Jack Luzzatto, Jordan Lasher, Mike Shenk, A. J. Santora (who had an excruciating puzzle, all agreed), Maura Jacobson (whose puzzle contained puns like WILD BILL HICCUP clued as "Friend of Wyatt Burp"), and Merl Reagle.

When the contestants' puzzles were graded and scored (10 points per word, 25 points for each minute off the time limit), the three highest-scoring competitors met for a final, 15-minute championship playoff puzzle. Each of the finalists was given the puzzle on a transparency, which was placed on an overhead projector, and the image of the contestant's work flashed to a screen behind him for viewing by the audience.

This playoff puzzle, by Four-Star associate editor Henry Hook, was purposely diabolic. Sample clues: "Victim of 'hanky'-panky?"—OTHELLO (the contestants' favorite); "Movie Hall of fame"—ANNIE; "Superman's foe from the fifth dimension"—MR. MXYZPTLK; and the outrageous "Klabberjass meld"—AKQ110987.

When the final puzzle was completed continued on page 2











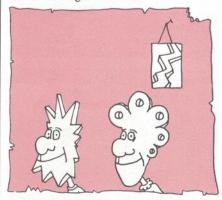
1. The competition in progress. (No fair peeking!) 2. Between rounds, 1979 champion Miriam Raphael talks with New York Times reporter Dudley Clendinen. 3. The all-important championship playoff: Philip Cohen, John Chervokas, Joel Darrow. 4. Champion's completed playoff puzzle, almost perfect: 43-Across should be CDVI, and 47-Across should be SEEM. 5. A relieved Cohen, at the post-tournament banquet, winner's cup at hand.

Photo 1 by Don Christensen; photos 2, 3, and 5 courtesy of the Stamford Marriott Hotel; photo 4 by Dave Herbick

# Guess Who's Who in Puzzledom

Normally this space is reserved for a profile of a well-known puzzlemaker, such as Thomas Middleton or Maura Jacobson who have appeared in earlier issues. On this occasion, however, we have two noted but shy subjects who have requested that we not print their names, though you may be able to guess their identities from the clues that follow.

Visiting our "mystery guests" recently from my home in New Hampshire, I was instructed to "drive to the Boston suburb where every piece of mail has the letters TO MS. WEED, RFD written on it." Half a day later I figured out that their direction started with an anagram of "West Medford," the name of their hometown. The two create puzzles full-time at home on a quiet street while listening to their favorite records of Fats Waller ragtime and western swing.



Above you see a humorous self-portrait of the mystery puzzlers, who say it takes them "anywhere from an evening to three weeks" to create a puzzle. Richard Maltby and Stephen Sondheim, the authors of intricate cryptic puzzles in old *New York* magazines, were models for this duo, who composed their own first puzzle in 1976.

You can find the works of these puzzlers in various magazines, including Games and The Four-Star Puzzler. Recently the two concocted an Americanstyle crossword titled "Sweethearts" for their weekly puzzle page in the Boston Globe magazine, in which the diagram featured intertwined hearts formed by the black squares. Not long ago they also established a cryptic double-crostic in The Progressive magazine featuring appropriately politically-left quotations from persons like Mohandas Gandhi, Adlai Stevenson, and Martin Luther King.

"Easily," they say, "our greatest pleasure comes from composing and solving

cryptic puzzles." Humor, brevity, and twists in meaning are the hallmarks of their clues. Deciphering one like "Wild West worry (4)," for example, requires seeing that "wild" indicates rearranging the letters of WEST to form the answer STEW, which means "worry."

Noting that "cryptic clues must adhere to strict guidelines of fair deception," the puzzlers say, "We find pleasure in knowing that every clue is sort of a double entendre, seeming to say one thing but meaning another." Also, solvers often must use creativity and deduction to discover how to enter the answer words in the diagram, which itself may be in an unusual pattern. X's, circles, and stars are among the novel shapes they have employed.

Of their cryptic puzzles, the two consider their favorite to be "Traffic Jam" (October, 1979, Atlantic Monthly), in which rows and columns of the diagram represented city streets and the answers weaved through the grid in four directions like cars in a rush hour. Christmas, 1979, brought a puzzle entitled "Noel," in which the clues seemed to have a holiday theme, but actually led to a quotation from "Mad Dogs and Englishmen" by Noel Coward.

Youthful puzzlers still in their 20s, the pair draw on their college backgrounds in English and science to create their imaginative and challenging crosswords. Like clockwork their cryptic puzzles appear monthly in the "bizarre Latin Act," their cryptic way of describing the *Atlantic*. In off hours, incidentally, they enjoy testing their non-verbal skills in games of baseball and tennis, as well as rooting for their home baseball team, the Boston Red Sox.

Maybe you've guessed their names by now and want to know if you're correct. Examine if you will the first letter of each sentence in this profile, from the end to the beginning, and you will find the mystery puzzlers' names revealed.

-ROBERT D. SPURRIER

Note: A new puzzle by the profilees appears elsewhere in this issue.

# **Book Review**

The Compleat Cruciverbalist, Or How To Solve and Compose Crossword Puzzles for Fun and Profit by Stan Kurzban and Mel Rosen: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1980, 167 pages, \$9.95

The Compleat Cruciverbalist is a comprehensive handbook on the lore and order of crossword puzzles. Written by two noted crossword constructors, Stan Kurzban and Mel Rosen, it is the first volume to explain in detail how to solve, create, and sell not only conventional

crosswords, but diagramless, puns 'n' anagrams, cryptics, and double-crostics.

Almost half the book is devoted to the craft of crossword construction. With the logic and precision of computer scientists (which Kurzban and Rosen indeed are), the authors explain the complex construction process step by step: selecting a theme, laying it out within a symmetrical pattern of black and white squares, completing the interlocking grid of words, and composing the clues. Hopeful puzzlemakers may be disappointed not to find a magic procedure. Crossword construction is a seat-of-the-pants craft, but the guidance in this book can at least give one a leg up.

Newcomers to cryptic puzzles are advised to be wary of these chapters of the book, as a fair number of sample clues are unsound by modern "square-dealing" standards. But the double-crostic instructions are clear, precise, and easy to follow, and anyone thrown by crossword construction would do well to turn here.

-MEL TAUB

### Stamford, cont'd

and tallied, first prize (\$400) went to Philip Cohen, a computer consultant from Aliquippa, PA, who said he hardly ever does American-style crosswords these days in favor of cryptic puzzles; second place went to Joel Darrow, a money manager from White Plains, NY, who describes himself as "the Reggie Jackson of crosswords"; and third place to John Chervokas, executive vice-president of a Park Avenue advertising agency, the man who created "Mr. Whipple."

Former New York Times crossword editor Will Weng was on hand during the weekend, as were Ruth von Phul, 1924 crossword tournament winner, Ross Eckler, editor of Word Ways, and many puzzle constructors. Margaret Farrar, the grand lady of crosswords, presented the awards at the post-tournament banquet to conclude the congenial affair.

# Sound Thinking

### Competition

Grand Prize: Games for the Super-intelligent, More Games for the Super-intelligent, and The World's Greatest Blackjack Book, from Doubleday

5 Runner-Up Prizes: "Word Rummy" card game from Gabriel

Everyone knows that no well-mannered rodent would consume its food in large mouthfuls, so of course NICE MICE SLICE RICE TWICE.

And speaking of animals, it is delightful to see how unselfish some of them are

with regard to furniture—RARE BEAR PAIR SHARE THEIR SQUARE MARE-HAIR CHAIR.

Also in the news recently was the chef who roused his sleeping assistant with instructions to prepare a perhaps not entirely delectable dinner. "AWAKE!" SPAKE JAKE BLAKE. "TAKE SNAKE STEAK, FLAKE LAKE HAKE, BAKE DRAKE, MAKE FAKE CAKE."

Compose your own sentence in which the words rhyme with one another and send it to "Sound Thinking," *The Four-Star Puzzler*, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. *Please note:* Only one entry per letter or postcard. Sentences will be judged on creativity and cleverness; the decision of the judges is capricious and final. Entries must be received by June 15, 1981. All entries become the property of *The Four-Star Puzzler*. Winners will be announced in the September issue

-LINDA BOSSON

# **Crosscut Saws**

### Results from March

The entries for the March contest (in which several proverbs or familiar phrases were to be combined in a single sentence) proved conclusively that a word in the hand is worth two flies in the ointment, three coins in the fountain, and four horsemen of the apocalypse.

I suspect, however, that Dean C. Gunderson was exaggerating when he wrote his winning entry: ONCE UPON A BLUE MOON, A WHITE ELEPHANT IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING WAS BARKING UP THE WRONG BUSH, WITH TWO BIRDS IN HAND, WHEN A GREEK, BEARING A GIFT HORSE IN HIS MOUTH, BURNED ALL THE BRIDGES BEHIND THE EIGHT BALL; THEY BOTH HAD A HATCHET TO GRIND, SO THEY BURIED THE AXE; THEN THEY WENT TO SEVENTH HEAVEN IN A HANDBASKET, PROVING: ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT A SILVER-LINED CLOUD.

The runners-up made the following sage observations:

Dick Rosen: WHEN IN ROME DO AS THE ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN, LEND ME YOUR EARS, NOSE AND DEEP THROAT, I COME TO BURY THE HATCHET NOT TO PRAISE THE LORD AND PASS THE WORD GAMES PEOPLE PLAY ON WORDS OF A FEATHER.

Jerry Stephens: DISCRETION IS THE BETTER PART OF LIVING IN GLASS HOUSES WHILE THE SUN SHINES.

Victoria L. Edgar: IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, TRY TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY.

Maureen Kennerk: DOGS MAY GIVE YOU A LICK AND A PROMISE, BUT NEVER LET SLEEPING DOGS LIE—HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY.

June M. Virgilio: IT'S ALWAYS CALM-EST BEFORE YOU THROW A MONKEY WRENCH INTO THE HAND THAT FEEDS YOU. —L.B.

# Kathleen Rafferty

It is with sadness that we report the death of Kathleen Rafferty, editor-inchief of Dell Publishing Company's puzzle publications. She died at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City on March 22 after a lengthy illness. She was 65.

Mrs. Rafferty joined Dell in the early 1940s and built the puzzle department—almost from scratch—to over 75 publications in 1981. To her editors and contributors Mrs. Rafferty was known as a stern but fair taskmaster. Her magazines were a reflection of her own self, emphasizing accuracy, quality, and strict propriety.

A private person, Mrs. Rafferty shunned publicity for herself and her publications. Her success was due in large part to her understanding of the puzzle audience. New York Times crossword editor Eugene Maleska, who himself contributed puzzles to Mrs. Rafferty beginning in 1950, said she "was always aware of the fan and solver from beginning to end."

Mrs. Rafferty is survived by two daughters and a son, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

# **For Starters**

Doubleday has sent us a magnificent just-published volume, *The Master Crossword Puzzle Dictionary* by Herbert M. Baus (\$19.95). It contains more than 200,000 clue words and one million answer words—or about 33% more material than our old favorite, *The New York Times Crossword Puzzle Dictionary* by Tom Pulliam and Clare Grundman. We try to write *Four-Star Puzzler* clues so these books *won't* help you, but we recommend them just the same.

How many different magazines of just puzzles would you guess are distributed on newsstands in the United States? Okay, ready? According to the April issue of *Marketing Bestsellers*: 110! By our title count, 46 of these, unfortunately, are composed of word search puzzles only. Thirty-one are all crosswords. Fifteen of the more enlightened magazines have crosswords plus variety puzzles. Eight are all crisscrosses. Just one has only double-crostics.

Interested in a "Puzzlers Have Fun with Squares" T-shirt, but didn't win one in our February and March contests? You can get one by sending \$5 to H<sup>2</sup>, Inc., 5 Spruce Lane, Kingston, NJ 08528.

Specify small, medium, or large.

Speaking of shirts, we have a few articles of dirty laundry to tell you about. February #31, question 5: We asked for the names of two Presidents who have as many syllables in their full names as in their monograms. The answer should have included William Howard Taft with George Washington and James Knox Polk. April #8, fourth clue: "Violinist" should have said "violist." As the puzzle now reads, the names of the horn and viola players are not determinate. April #10, fourth word: Second F should be a G. (Our proofreader, you'll be happy to hear, has been severely flogged. We were not merciful.)

And the mystery deepens. Researcher David Shulman has examined a copy of the book *Mnemonics* (subject of February's "Real-Life Puzzle") in the New York Public Library, and reports: "After a second look at Masonic manuals of a like mysterious nature, I find this one has no relation. Likewise, I rule it out as a Civil War code. It is definitely a mnemonic structured work whose operation remains inexplicable to me." Mr. Shulman also writes that an accompanying 16-page vocabulary and specimen sheet are missing from the volume. Do they hold the key?

Attention, Hoosier puzzlers. The Tippecanoe Arts Federation in Lafayette, Indiana, is planning a crossword tournament Saturday, June 27, as part of the annual Midsummer Arts Festival. For details write Puzzles, P.O. Box 5055, Lafayette, IN 47903, or call (317)423-2787.

—W.S.

THE 4+
PUZZLER

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How to Write to Us: Letters and Manuscripts: *The Four-Star Puzzler*, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. Enclose a stamped return envelope if you wish reply or return of material.

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Subscriptions: In U.S. and possessions \$9.97 for one year, \$17.97 for two. Canadian and foreign subscriptions \$11.97. Send to *The Four-Star Puzzler*, P.O. Box 10743, Des Moines, 14.50340.

Back Issues: Send \$1.50 per copy (which includes postage and handling) to *The Four-Star Puzzler*. Back Issues, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. Please specify issue number or month and year.

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# **Rebus Puzzles**

### A Four-Star Contest

Grand Prize: "Marrakesh" strategy game by Xanadu Leisure, Ltd.

10 Runner-Up Prizes: 18-inch flexible "Silly Pencils"

Competition Puzzles in This Issue: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 34, 35, 37, 38, 42, 43.

### How to Solve Rebus Puzzles

The caption above each cartoon gives the category of the answer and the number of letters in it. All the parts of the answer are found *phonetically* in the cartoon in one or more of the following ways:

- 1. Words or hyphenated syllables actually spoken by the cartoon characters or appearing in the cartoon;
- 2. Synonyms of words spoken by the characters or appearing in the cartoon;
- 3. Names of prominent objects in the picture;
  - 4. Isolated letters in the picture;
- 5. Words implied by the action or subject of the scene.

For example, the answer to the first cartoon (Novel: 7,4) is *Tobacco Road*. It is sounded out by the successive words ToW, the action of the truck; BACK, part of the dialogue; and CORRODE, a synonym of "to rust" (TOW-BACK-CORRODE).

### How to Enter

On a postcard or back of an envelope (no letters, please), send us answers to as many rebuses as you can solve. Please list the parts of each answer (as above), and send to "Rebus Puzzles," *The Four-Star Puzzler*, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. Entries must be received by June 15, 1981.

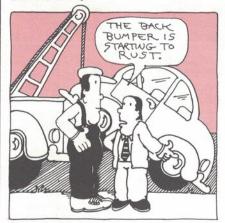
### Winning

The winner will be the reader who correctly solves the most cartoons. Those who submit the ten next best entries will be runners-up. In case of ties, winners will be chosen by random drawing. Answers will appear next month. Winners' names will appear in the September issue.

### March Winners

Grand Prize (Parker Brothers' electronic "Merlin" game): Lynn Gardner, Pittsburgh, PA. Runners-up ("Puzzlers" T-shirts): Trudi Benedict, Buffalo Grove, IL; Edward S. Dermon, Roslyn Hts., NY; Dr. and Mrs. Harry Hazard, Rochester, NY; Tom Hotalen, Philmont, NY; Peter MacDonald, Ridgefield, CT; George Madrid, Seattle, WA; Maggie McGlone, Chicago, IL; Tom Morse, Slidell, LA; Nancy Sue Scheppner, King of Prussia, PA; and Steven Sterner, New York, NY. Total entries: 236. Total correct entries: 138.

### Ex.: Novel: 7, 4



### Nation: 5



### 2 Wine: 8



### 🔞 Artist: 7, 5



# On a First-Name Basis

DOUG and JANIS HELLER

Each group of first names below belongs to four famous personalities (real or fictional) with something in common. You needn't give all four last names; just find the something-in-common. For example, the names Eli, Thomas, Robert, and Alexander all belong to inventors (Whitney, Edison, Fulton, Graham Bell).

Answers, page 10

- 1. Johnny, Hank, Kenny, Dolly
- 2. George, Hubert, Barry, Adlai
- 3. Jane, Debby, Lucie, Shaun
- 4. Arthur, John, Jimmy, Virginia
- 5. Alfred, Mel, Otto, Roman
- 6. Charles, Walt, Garry, Chic
- 7. Alan, Loretta, Jamie, Mike
- 8. Alan, John, Frank, Neil
- 9. Bob, Bill, Gene, Richard
- 10. Conrad, Eddie, Richard, John
- 11. Jane, Sam, Nick, Charlie
- 12. Margaret, Ray, Bert, Frank
- 13. Roger, Terry, Joe, Fran
- 14. Phyllis, Mary Ann, Lee, Bess
- 15. Susan, Julie, Margaret, Patti
- 16. Les, Betty, Karen, Pete
- 17. Janet, Peggy, Linda, Dorothy
- 18. Bobby, Larry, José, Boris
- 19. Ben, Lou, Perry, Barney
- 20. Andrew, Michael, Kate, Jesse

# 6 High as a Kite

WALTER PENNEY

Three towns in a rural district are each situated exactly 12 miles from the other two. At a certain moment a kite is flying at a point that is 7 miles from each town. Can you determine the height of the kite in its flight?

Answer, page 10

# Cooped Up

SIDNEY KRAVITZ

The farmer proudly told of his exceptional hens. "I only have a few," he said, "but together they laid 1981 eggs during the year."

If each hen produced the same number of eggs, how many hens were there?

Answer, page 10

# **Pen Pals**

MERL REAGLE

Note: Even if you start this puzzle with a pencil, you'll finish

### ACROSS

- 1 Old soldiers' home?
- 7 Lone Star nine
- 13 Rake over (reprimand)
- 15 Musical intro
- 16 Go to live elsewhere
- 17 Rocket sheddings 18 Goldfish and
- hamsters 19 How the shirt
- fit?
- 21 Item to be penned in
- 22 Bond, e.g.
- 23 Start of the pen
- 26 Suppose. . . 27 Piper's
- description Pecking-order 28
- locale 30 Naysaying folks
- 33 Item to be
- penned in 36 Muscat man
- 37 Buenos

- 38 Item to be
- penned in 41 Actress Holm
- 43 Star-crossed lover
- 44 Extremes
- 45 Serendipitous shout
- Part of the pen
- Lines on a map: Abbr.
- 52 Item to be penned in
- Barbershop quickie
- Oz's "founder"
- Builds 59 Dignified
- styling 61 Promise
- 62 What women say men are
- 63 Borg, for one
- 64 Fluttering trees

### DOWN

- 1 Item to be penned in
- Troublesome

- 3 Hard-to-beat items
- 4 Go bad
- Gossip
- Against (despite improbabilities)
- TV spots
- W.C. Fields characterization
- 9 Surround
- 10 Clicks in one's mind
- 11 Closer to Greeks?
- 12 Loretta's portraver
- 13 GIs en masse: Abbr.
- 14 Darning site
- 20 Late, in Lyon
- 23 Part of the pen
- 24 Pigeon English?
- 25 Part of the pen 27 Colorfully
- radical 29 Heavens
- 30 Finish an i
- 31 "Ornis enormous" 32 Most limited
- 34 "... seen nothin'
- From Iceland to Ireland
- Vote of confidence
- Type of contact lens
- 41 Diacritical mark
- in "garçon"
- 42 Glossy coats 45 Indian, for one
- 46 Silver or Scout
- 48 Length x width,
- for a square 49 Arrested
- 50 Item to be penned in
- 51 Captain Hook's main schnook
- Underwater film? 55 Hay or cotton
- unit
- 57 Refrain fragment
- 58 Sun Yat-60 Interruption in time

# Cryptic Crossword

**BOB YARASHUS** 

Each cryptic clue contains two indications of its answer-a direct or indirect definition, and some sort of wordplay on it (anagram, pun, or reversal, etc.). You'll know when you have an answer because every word in the clue will have a role in leading you to it. For new solvers: Explanations will appear with answers next month.

### **ACROSS**

- 1 Awkwardly suck in gut, for certain (8)
- 5 Pack for the return of spring, about the 3rd-4th of March (6)
- Capture outside regions of Southwest Asia (4, 4)
- 10 A money-mad officer (6)
- 12 Spy captured Peron's heart in a South American country (9)
- 13 Monster caught in pornography dragnet (5)
- Scandinavian gets piece of fish from the sound (4)
- 16 Darn! The whole thing turned into a yellow paste (7)
- 19 Studying a railroad (7)
- 21 Plant, say, twice the usual (2-2)
- Coming back to help an outstanding gymnast (5)
- They're starting to ask champs to abandon

- leader (9)
- 27 Prevent the second one's getting into Model T
- 28 Song is poorly writtencancel it (8)
- Conflicts, as exhibited by wreckage, surrounding end of civilization (3-3)
- 30 Alone, I note, before hectic date (8)

### DOWN

- 1 Fire may dance (6)
- Fee to burn large utility firm (6)
- Inadvertently I sent Gertrude (5)
- 4 Amid torrential rains, American seen with Soviet (7)
- 6 That messy assortment of jewels! (9)
- Gagster's company is above average (8)
- 8 Fifty-one measures of ropes (8)

- - 11 Evening enshrouds a large tropical tree (4)
  - 15 I'm one to sit on domeless terminal like a dummy (9)
  - 17 Change buses or trains? I left before official hike (8)
  - 18 He joins women's group in speech in China (8)
- 20 Lots of sailors (4)
- 21 Cues in Glass Menagerie (7)
- 22 Jazz buff renders a short piece in fervor
- 23 Increase makes one remit about \$100 (6)
- 26 What Angelenos get from sun-up is indigenous (5)

# **10** The Great Race

### Logic Problem

PAUL R. McCLENON

Probably Mr. Carter first suggested it to Dave, but soon all five of them agreed to the great race. Cliff's wife served as the starter, and she jotted down some notes while the race was in progress. When they had rounded the first turn she noted that:

1. Ed was ahead of the engineer, and

2. Al was ahead of the buyer.

She explains that "ahead" here does not necessarily mean "immediately ahead"; she had not planned her technique for note-taking. She is sure, however, that after that first noted spot there were only nine changes of relative position, in this sequence:

3. The chef passed Ed.

4. Mr. Carter passed Bob.

5. The chef passed Mr. Beacham.

6. The designer passed Ed.

7. Mr. Archer passed the buyer.

8. [Sorry—her note is illegible!]

9. The designer passed Mr. Drake.

10. [Another badly scrawled note-oh, well!]

11. Ed passed the accountant.

(Note: For each of these last clues, if A passed B, then A passed only B.)

When you know that Mr. Early finished fourth, you should be able to match first names (Al, Bob, Cliff, Dave, and Ed) with last names (Archer, Beacham, Carter, Drake, and Early) and occupations (accountant, buyer, chef, designer, and engineer), and tell the order of finish.

Answer, page 10

# O Chess Search

MIKE SHENK

This is really two puzzles in one—a word search puzzle and a chess problem. To start, find the names of 12 chess pieces hidden on the chessboard in horizontal, vertical, or diagonal lines. Instead of circling the whole words, however, circle only the first letter of each—except for any knights you may find, for which you should circle the Ns to distinguish them from the kings. When you're done, the 12 circled letters will give the board positions of the pieces in the chess problem. All men on ranks 1-4 are white, and all on ranks 5-8 are black. Then it's White's move and mate in four.

Answer, page 10

8	W	N	1	K	R	0	0	K
7	A	N	E	Е	U	Q	-	P
6	Р	0	В	1	S	N	0	A
5	0	K	N	1	G	Н	T	W
		0	N	W		0	R	N
3	S	0	R	1	A	Н	0	Α
2	I	R	В	N		P	0	W
1	В	Т	Н	G	N	1	K	P



# Cryptography

SALLY PORTER

Each of these messages has been put into a simple substitution letter code. The substitutions are constant throughout each cipher, but change from one cipher to the next.

### What's the Hitch?

AMBLE LEVPAW HVGL, KET SVT
DXVPR XKE RML PG WMD PEFKHT
DXVPRCKDRLH FMRW DNPKHL,
KEXWVH, VH AHKEET JEVRD.

### Let's Sit This One Out

GLBYK, QKBYK, VKCPR VNBJRQ

NDSKLQV BTMMHN—KPNM PKMWHF.

QRWV—QSRN GRLVTCNQ BRGN

KJV, VSTCOQ FRLVSWLH JKGVCNG.

### 🕒 Too Vulnerable?

MGSAFT FLIT UXKBIXGBTI:
TETGRSKT SH NCBSOSBQ
UGLRBSRTA MQ OXKTGK BX KPXD
DSHHTGK DPQ BPTQ KPXCOA PLJT
OXKB.

### **O** Super Bowl

RSTRUVTW XYZVBYZC XVCDERF VZGUVHTVZH RUURF JK KETGGYUVZH KVZC, KETGYX GRVEC, HJUHYJTC MTYC.

### 1 Am the Greatest!

DPCRDMQXPK SXSRJQTRNJB,

VBJMQ VBTH CTFXPK SBXDHWQ,

DPAPTGXPKRO CTBJM VBXJPNM

SQBTDKQ DPJPNXPK CBYKKYNTEXT.

# **10** Acrostic Puzzle

CHARLES A. DUERR

1B	2P	3W		4H	5V	6E		7U	81	9A	10 J	11X	12F		138	14D	15C		16L	17B	18M	19P	
200	2 1 W		22N	23G	24E		25N	261	27K	28C	29 J		30P	31V	32B		33X	34R	35T	36M	37G	38F	
39P	40G		4 1 Y	42Q	431		44U	45K		46H	47L	48E		49M	50C	51P	52R	53B	54J		55A	561	57X
58N		59S		60D	61H	620	63B	64X	65W	66K		67R	68F		69V	70F		711	72Q	73J	74E		75C
76P		77X	78H	79W		80M	81L	82C	83B	84U	85A	860	87T	88N	89K		90W	9 1P	92J	93Q	94B	95V	96X
97D	981		99G	100E	1018		102B	103G	104K	1050	106Y	107X		108A	109U		110M	111X	112J	113W	114Q		115P
116R	117H	118B	119T	120A	121X	1220	123M		124J	125K	126S		127N	128D	129V	1301		1310	132U		133J	134R	135B
	136N	137L	138G	139X	140D	141W		142F	143P	144S		145K	146X		147H	148C	1491		150E	151T	152P	153B	1540
	155F	156J	157U		158M	159A	160N	1618	162H	163D	1640	165B	166L	167E		168X	1695	170W	171C	172K		173Q	1741
	175G	176J	177P	178X		179N	180U	181V	182Y	183F		184G	185M	186H	187B		188R	189X	190E	1911			

Answer the clues for words to be entered on the numbered dashes. Then transfer the letters on the dashes to the correspondingly numbered squares in the puzzle grid to spell a quotation reading left to right. Black squares separate words in the quotation. Work back and forth between grid and word list to complete the puzzle. When you are done, the initial letters of the words in the word list will spell the name of the author and the source of the quotation.

Clues Word Lis	ŧ
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- A. Ceremonial 9 120 159 85 55 108

- **D.** Family member  $\frac{128}{128} = 97 = 60 = 14 = 140 = 163$
- F. Foundation for a highway 183 68 142 12 155 70 38
- G. Facts, lowdown 99 175 37 40 138 103 184 23
- H. Passage between decks of a ship 46 61 147 117 78 4 186 162
- I. Situation marked by financial independence (2 wds.)
- J. Whom Al Smith said "nobody shoots at" 29 73 124 133 176 92 10 112 156 54 (2 wds.)
- K. Systematics 45 27 66 145 89 125 104 172

- M. Stresses 36 18 80 185 49 110 158 123
- N. From time to time (archaic) 160 179 22 136 88 127 58 25
- O. 17th-century 86 164 122 20 62 105 131 instrument
- Q. Mooring or towing 72 42 173 114 154 93
- R. Colorless, odorless hydrocarbon 188 67 134 52 34 116
- T. Emend 119 35 87 151
- U. Conjugate (a verb) 44 132 109 84 180 7 157
- V. Wyatt Earp, e.g. 129 5 181 69 95 31
- W. Knowledgeable 90 141 21 65 113 3 79 170
- Y. Female goat  $\frac{106 41}{182}$



# **The Sphinx Page**



The puzzles on this page are like those written years ago, before crosswords became popular, when the Sphinx was called "The Patron Saint of Puzzledom."

Each puzzle in verse contains two or more missing words to be guessed, in such forms as beheadments (BRAKE/RAKE), charades (TAR + GET = TARGET), letter changes (AVENGE/AVENUE), or even palindromes (LIVE NOT ON EVIL). These keywords are represented by x's, y's, and z's—one for each letter in an omitted word. When the keywords have been correctly guessed, each verse will read with proper rhyme and meter, and will express an interesting thought, quip, or story.

An anagram is an apposite rearrangement of the letters in a word, name, or familiar phrase. For example, LO, A RENT ATTEMPT is an anagram of APARTMENT TO LET. Numbers in parentheses indicate lengths of answers.

### **D**Beheadments

I'm on the platform, hand to ear, And leaning now I zyxxxx to hear The yxxxx. I hope that it is near, For it's about to xxxx, I fear.

Alan Batterman, Spring Valley, NY

### (B) Charade

At xxx I'll end my round today, And all my skill I'll give it. First yyy my lucky cap and swing. . . Oops! xxxyyy, please, that divot.

Lynne Martin, Tacoma, WA

### **D** Letter Change

I've thought against buying that sports car, Although it runs well and looks nice. I have xxxxx misgivings about it— Its xxyxx is less than its price.

Miriam Raphael, Port Chester, NY

### **30** Charade

Of all the farm hands I have hired, That last yyy was the worst; The silver xxxx I most admired Was what that crook stole first. xxxxyyyzzz his strongest trait, He'd pick most any lock.
My zzz of pigs—what was their fate? He sold them on the block!

Mary J. Hazard, Rochester, NY

### **a** Anagram

PENNANT'S BARS GLARED (4 8 6; title)

Helen Bernhardt, Bronx, NY

### **Transposal**

xxxxxx your complainings; be happy till night! The air is like xxxxxx, the heavens are bright, The horses are ready, their saddle-girths tight; We'll xxxxxx away in a xxxxxx of delight.

Anon., Hidden Anagrams, 1912

### **Beheadment**

I love you yxxxxx, handsome lad. But we were s'posed to meet at eight. You showed up xxxxx, finding me Romancing with another date.

Vickie Charlton, Belmont, MA

### **2** Letter Change

An oil by Xxxxx would look nice in this room—

But xxxxy looks nice in my pocket.
(The painting would please, but would just lead to gloom—

I fear I would soon have to hock it!)

Mary J. Hazard, Rochester, NY

### **2** Transposal

To save the xxxxxx in your marriage xxxxxx her xxxxxx, staunch support. Just learn to xxxxxx, don't disparage, And you can settle out of court.

Ross Hamilton, Mental Gym-Nasties, 1976

### **Word Deletion**

St. Pete xyyyyxx spoke to the man at the Gates,

"You've been sneaky and xxx all your days. No yyyy here for you, pal—you waited too long

To atone for your Fagin-like ways."

Jeanne Roman, Jamesville, NY

### **3** Beheadment

A symbol for yxxxxxx in many cartoons Is sawing of xxxxxx in little balloons.

Philip M. Cohen, Aliquippa, PA

### 23 Palindrome

Young Ned was ardent in his wooing, While June was gravely sweet and shy. When pressed for answer to his suing, Her lips said nay; her eyes said aye. So in their beaming radiant gladness, Their rapture shone as noonday sun; He sensed her answer's amorous madness: "xxx, Xxx, X xx x xxxxxx xxx."

Su San, The Enigma, May, 1929

### **Curtailment**

A starlet, xxxxxxxy to fame, Determines to win at her game; For stress-produced aches, This silly girl takes Cocaine (finding xxxxxxx tame).

Mary J. Hazard, Rochester, NY

### Transposal

The fun house xxxxxxxx awesome frights Like demons, bats, and Frankenstein. Though folks xxxxxxxx these eerie sights, They paid to stand for hours in line.

Marge Deibel, Mt. Pleasant, MI

### Anagrams

- 31 HELP OUT MY NEED (3 10)
- I SET BASIC WORD ENTRY (8 10;
- O, BRINGS LOFTY RESEARCH (3 7 2 8; proper name)

David Shulman, New York, NY

Do you feel the Muse? Send us an original puzzle of any type you have seen on this page, and we'll thank you with \$20 if it is used. Anagrams will be judged for appositeness, and poetic puzzles for cleverness of keywords and verse. Write "The Sphinx," The Four-Star Puzzler, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. Enclose a stamped return envelope if you wish a reply.

### Comic Strip Character: 5, 3



### 1821 Novel: 6, 4



# 35 Deception

MIKE SHENK

	1	2	3	4		5	0	1	0	2315	9	10	1''	112			10	1"	113	1,0
7						18					19				20		21			
2						23				24						25				
6			-		27				28						29			+		
0			-	+	+		31	32				33		34						
FE	SE US	35	-	+	+		36	-	-		37			38	+	-		39	40	41
12	43		0.000	44	-	45		-	-			46	47		-	-		48	-	-
19	,,,		50		51	-	_		33.000		52		-	-	-	00000	53		-	-
			30		31					6.7	02	-				58		_	-	
54				55		56				57						56				
9					60				61			=	-		62					
3							64	65						66					67	68
		69					70							71			-			
72	73		T	+		74			$\top$			75	76			77	$\top$	T		T
78	+	$\vdash$	$\vdash$		79				152			80	$\vdash$		81		82			
83				84			+		+	85	86				$\vdash$	87		88		
89	+	+	90		+				9 1-			-	+		92	+	93			
63			94	+	+	-	95	96		97	-		+		98	+	+	+	99	100
101	102	103		+	+		104		105	-	+	1999		106		+	+	+	+	+
107		-	+	+	+	108		-	+	+	-	109	110			111	+	+	+	+
112	-	-	_		113	-	-		-		114		-	-		115	-	+	+	+
					113	113	_	_			118	_	_	_		119	-	-	-	
116						117					110					119				

	cens	sor						
9	" Small							
	Wo	rld"						
13	Wei	ght						
		** 1						

**ACROSS** 

1 First gardener 5 Famed Roman

- 17 Actress Verdugo 18 King of Norway
- 19 1971 Matthau
- movie Indian tourist
- spot 22 Long for 23 Site of a
- rickety bridge? 26 Do Disney's work
- 28 Lou Grant role
- 29 Heart material 30 Arrive at a
- judgment 31 Condemn
- 33 Delphi medium 35 Course for a
- bus. major 36 Red as
- 38 Dismissed from service
- 42 Volt/ohm
- 44 Like a bad interior designer?
- 48 Ham site
- 49 Swedish name 51 Film unit
- 52 1950s veep
- 53 Adolescent
- 54 Curved
- moldings.
- ...and their shape
- 57 Permitted
- 58 Plaintiffs
- 59 Most inquisitive
- 61 Russian botanist Edward
- Word after brass or rubber
- 63 Losing stripes?
- 69 Refuse
- One of the black keys
- 71 Bottomless
- 72 Dijon darling 74 Beth's follower
- 75 Between birdie and bogey

- Janeiro 78 Certain layers 79 Plateaus
- 80 Famed race,
- for short "We're looking
- good men" (Marines slogan)
- 83 Rainbow Wife with a 84
- "headache"?
- 88 AMA folk
- Auditions Satirical work
- 92 Gardening aid 94 Memo writers
- 97 Ten digits
- 98 Production yield 101 Zoroastrian
- sacred books 104 Fabulous author
- 106 Pretentiously up-to-date
- Cynicism? 111 "Let those who favor with their stars. . . ":

Shakespeare

- \_ (bored 112 In \_\_\_ by habit)
- 113 Terror
- 114 Blue-pencil 115 Tree houses
- 116 Backtalk
- 117 Slippery types 118 Sunbathers' shades
- 119 Prescription part

### DOWN

- 1 Isolated
- 2 Top spot at the patent office?
- 3 Bloodless
- 4 Corrida hero
- Word with area or dress
- Pub pints Luggage label
- Chiefs
- 9 DDE's namesakes 10 Trunk

- 11 Bleacher feature 12 Tread the boards
- 13 Gingerbread house captive
- ingredient Spouse of
- 73-Down Red or video
- follower 17 Modified
- organism 20 Join a wagon to a tractor
- 24 Trio of trios
- 25 Houston athlete 27 Caruso or
- Pavarotti 7/4/76 and 12/7/41
- 32 Cain's kin et al.
- 34 Necktie of a sort 37 Carson's show
- 39 Pessimist's right?
- 40 Flirtatious type

- 41 Bears' lairs
- 42 Parallel to 43 Cartoonland's Quincy
- 45 Canines, e.g. Custard
  - 46 Chopped up. 47 Napoleon on Elba
    - 50 Some fishermen 53 Libya's neighbor
      - 55 Musical repeat signs
      - 57 Kind of tender 58 Nymph chaser
      - 60 Pen
      - 61 Robert's Order
      - 62 Shilling
      - 64 Reward from the boss
      - 65 Isle . Gras 66
      - 67 Raiders' leader 68 Oodles
      - 72 Conversation
      - 73 Munich man 74 Brant and barnacle
      - 75 Morsel

- 76 Two of Henry VIII's six 79 \_Jeff
- 81 Rowdy brute
- 84 Proportional share
- 85 The\_ the land 86 Tear
- \_ clear (audibly)
- 90 Beginnings
- 93 Sound system 95 Rajah's Mrs.
- 96 Love Story
- author 99 Bring together
- 100 Sawbucks 101 Actress Rehan
- et al. 102 Miles of film
- 103 Cassowaries' cousins
- 105 Turfs 106 Shea nine
- 108 Wrath 109 Actress Lupino
- 110 Shark indicator

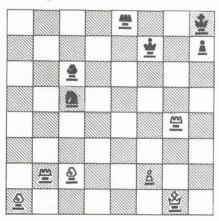
# **ANSWERS**

### This Issue

- 4 1. Country singers (Cash, Williams, Rogers, Parton) 2. Losers of Presidential elections (McGovern, Humphrey, Goldwater, Stevenson) 3. "Second-generation" performers (Fonda, Boone, Arnaz, Cassidy) 4. Tennis stars (Ashe, McEnroe, Connors, Wade) 5. Film directors (Hitchcock, Brooks, Preminger, Polanski) 6. Cartoonists (Schulz, Kelly, Trudeau, Young) 7. M\*A\*S\*H stars (Alda, Swit, Farr, Farrell) 8. Astronauts (Shepard, Glenn, Borman, Armstrong) 9. TV game show hosts (Barker, Cullen, Rayburn, Dawson) 10. Elizabeth Taylor's husbands (Hilton, Fisher, Burton, Warner) 11. Fictional detectives (Marple, Spade, Charles, Chan) 12. Wizard of Oz stars (Hamilton, Bolger, Lahr, Morgan) 13. Quarterbacks (Staubach, Bradshaw, Namath, Tarkenton) 14. Miss Americas (George, Mobley, Meriwether, Myerson) 15. Daughters of Presidents (Ford, Nixon, Truman, Smith (Reagan)) 16. "Colorful" surnames (Brown, White, Black, Rose) 17. Olympic figure skaters (Lynn, Fleming, Fratianne, Hamill) 18. Chess players (Fischer, Evans, Capablanca, Spassky) 19. TV title characters (Casey, Grant, Mason, Miller) 20. Famous Jacksons.
- (§) The three towns are at the vertices of an equilateral triangle with a 12-mile side. The center of the triangle is  $4\sqrt{3}$  miles from each city. The height of the kite hovering above is the third side of a right triangle in which one leg is  $4\sqrt{3}$  miles and the hypotenuse is 7 miles. Therefore, the kite is one mile high. That's a lot of string!
- 6 There were 7 hens each laying 283 eggs.  $(7 \times 283 = 1,981)$
- Tinal standings: 1st, Cliff Carter, designer; 2nd, Dave Drake, chef; 3rd, Bob Archer, engineer; 4th, Ed Early, buyer; and 5th, Al Beacham, accountant.

A full explanation is available upon request. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to "The Great Race," *The Four-Star Puzzler,* 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

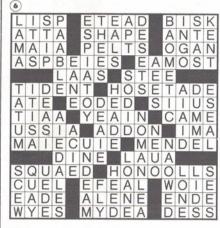
1. Rb7+ Re5 (If 1... Qg7 2. Bg7+ Kg8 3. Bh6+ Kh8 4. Rh7 mate) 2. Be5+ Qg7 3. Rbg7 (taking with the other rook also works), any 4. Rg8 mate.



- The one person who revealed that his handicap wasn't as it was purported to be was George Burke. If he had been blind, he could not have "read" what Tom was signing and would have had to wait for Martha's translation before disputing.
- 9,710,469 + 29,781,046 = 39,491,515
- 44 Arraigning
- **429** 1425 + 5241 = 6666; 6666 2374 =
- 46 A snake and a snake charmer
- Outside back

### Last Issue

- 2 Neil Diamond (KNEEL-DIAMOND)
- 3 Real People (REEL-P-PULL)
- Auntie Mame (ANN-TEAM-AIM)



② ACROSS: 1. RE-TIREMEN-T 6. EPIC (hidden) 9. CALIF (ornia) 10. NEIGHBORS (anag.) 12. ENEMIES (anag.) 13. M(AID)S 15. (p)ARTISANS 17. B-ERETS (reset anag.) 19. EFFORT (hidden) 21. SEA-SONED (hidden) 23. STRAP (parts rev.) 24. B(R)OTHER 27. CRIB-SHEET 28. LA-UGH (hug anag.) 29. SING(le) 30. ASS(ESSM)ENT (mess anag.)

DOWN: 1. ROCK (2 mngs.) 2. T(ALL)EST 3. RIFLE (anag.) 4. MENTIONS (is not anag.) 5. N-AILS (sail anag.) 7. PRO-FILE 8. CAST'S-ASIDE 11. HAMLETS 14. HAVERSACKS (anag.) 16. STRIPES (anag.) 18. DEPOR-TEE (roped rev.) 20. FO-REIGN (of rev.) 22. NURTURE (anag.) 24. BREWS ("bruise") 25. HALLS (anag.) 26. WH (iskey band) IT



- © Contrary to popular superstition, surprises do not always come in threes quadruplets, for instance.
- Bashful benedict buys lacy peignoir for bride. Foxy lady exchanges gift for sexy see-through negligee.
- Pesky gophers wreak havoc on garden, gnaw succulent parsnip, kohlrabi, and turnip plants.
- (3) Soccer goalie begged succor from referee when donnybrook erupted during wild match. Penalty: free kick.
- (A) Crystal prisms hanging from chandelier form rainbows on ceiling when struck by bright sunshine.
- (B) Word List: A. Run-down B. Import C. Chowderhead D. Hawkeye E. Affairs F. Raffles G. Dwight H. Achievement I. Rampages J. Manatee K. Ophelia L. Uplifting M. Righthanded N. Dotty O. Revives P. Uninviting Q. Gashes R. Scam S. Tuna T. Oilfish U. Rankle V. Emblem W. Digest X. Annealed Y. Yokohama Z. Swarthy

Quotation: My grandmother was nice to Prince, never making him go faster than a walk and always giving him a couple of lumps of sugar at the end of a drive. If my grandfather had been treated like this, he would have spent less time in his hideaway.

-Richard Armour, Drug Store Days

- 16 Tower/wrote
- Rat-her
- 18 Promises/premises
- Dynamo/Monday
- 20 Agree/eager
- 21 Sunlit/insult
- Battleships/bath, tip, less
- 23 Chilly/chili
- (C)limb
- Bonny kilt/ Connie built
- 26 Herpetologist
- 27 A ballet dancer
- The Last Time I Saw Paris
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- SO E.L. Doctorow (E-YELL-DOCTOR-OH)
- (KEEL-ARGO)
- 32 To a Skylark (TWO-ASK-I'LL-ARK)

PTERO CHARTS RAGES
REHEAT TENURE ABROWN
OWEDTOASKYLARK GOALIE
YEP TELL THECANEMUTINY
SERVE BROOD CARE ECGS
OODLES WSW CONTE
DEFY ENVS HACKS EXPOS
AVIATE PLAINT ARPENT
SETGO USURPERS GREASE
EOAN SAO OPA CLEW
TACONIGHTFLIGHT TETS
ISOF ITA FUNDE AT SEA
REDHENN GAELIC PRIORS
GHETTO REPULSES AT SEA
REDHENN GAELIC PRIORS
ESSEN SCOWL NOLIERNE
ACTEMMALI ERNE
ACTEMMALI ERNE
ACTEMMALI ESS ASONE
THEAWEDCOUPLES ANICES
REEKS CARNEY BENET

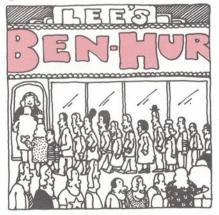
1E. ASCOT (anag.) 2S. SWEATSHOP (anag.) 3E. C-L-IN-CH 4S. GAR(B)AGE 5S. R(ESP)ITE 6S. ASK-EW (we rev.) 7W. P-LOWS-HARES (slow anag.) 7S. PEA (homophone) 8S. C(HITCH)ATS 9E. SWEET-TALK (anag.) 10N. W-HELP 11S. KO-PECK 12N. CALL-IN-G 13E. LIB(R)A (bail anag.) 14E. TAGS (anag.) 15W. PIT (2

mngs.) 16W. LIT-HE 17S. YOKE (hidden) 18N. (s)KILL(s) 19W. L-AND 20W. AL(O)E 21S. SO-T-TED 21E. S-NOBBISM (bombs in anag.) 22W. B-ONE 23W. CO-RON-A 24E. CARBUNCLE (anag.) 25W. RACE (hidden) 26N. SIREN (anag.) 27W. A-T-TRACT 28E. LI-M-PET 29W. ILEAC (hidden). Letters along shaded path spell PLEASE WATCH YOUR STEP.



- 35 Tom Brokaw (TOM-BROKE-AWWW)
- 36 Tarzan (TARS-AN')
- 37 Eugene Ormandy (YOU-GEE-NOR-MANDY)
- 39 <u>282109</u> 47 ) 13259123
- Haile Selassie (HI-LISA-LASSIE)
- (4) A Bell for Adano (ABE-ELL-FOUR-ADD-ON-OH)

### 37 Mythological Character: 8



### 3 Fictional Place: 7-2

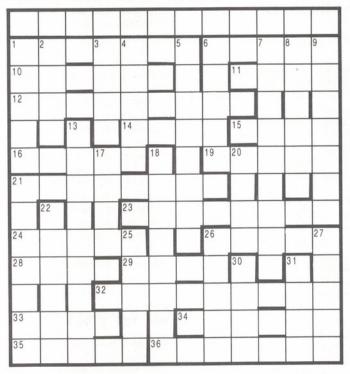


# **39 Musical Chairs**

# Variety Cryptic Puzzle

### EMILY COX and HENRY RATHVON

Answers to the twelve italicized Down clues play musical chairs before being entered in the diagram; i.e., their letters rotate sequentially and drop one member. For example, the word CHAIR as an answer might be entered as HARC with the I dropped, or IRHA with the C dropped, etc. The twelve letters discarded in this manner are to be seated at the tops of their respective columns, where they will compose a musical item. Answers include three proper names. Punctuation in the clues may be used deceptively.



### ACROSS

- 1 Those punk bands are endlessly in hearing range (7)
- 6 They cover a version of *Tosca* (5)
- 10 Man is all broken up about the song (6)
- 11 Alternately sang tunes causing a feverish feeling (4)
- 12 A composition of Elgar isn't for certain instruments (9)
- 14 Appealing selection from a record with Elvis' face (4)
- 15 Gentleman holding center of baton indicates brisk movement (4)
- 16 Never carelessly pluck
  (5)
- 19 Hum "Over the Rainbow" starting near the middle (5)
- 21 Tenor's excited about a number that's rich and loud (8)
- 23 Let's sing "Light Shines"
  (8)
- 24 The limitations of brass ensembles (5)

- 26 "A Little Bit Me"—tune without an end (5)
- 28 Polish up the middle of the ditty (4)
- 29 Dances along with bugle song (4)
- 32 Wanted: new slide bar on end of trombone (9)
- 33 Stay for the finale (4)
- 34 The woman will hold third note, provided it's a little lower! (6)
- 35 A piano place with entrance at the rear it's seedy (5)
- 36 Round thing driven in a wind instrument (7)

### DOWN

- 1 Dislodge from chair as tune is playing (6)
- 2 An instrument's vital part (5)
- 3 Asians in an opera by Massenet (5)
- 4 When cellist keeps away
  (5)
- 5 Follower of a Greek or Latin (tops in improvisation) (9)
- 6 Religion makes Indian

- start to drum (5)
- 7 They're rock standards, musical sounds (10)
- 8 Pipes—a couple heard by Mr. Crosby (6)
- 9 Second part of the scale held by groups to be esoteric knowledge (7)
- 13 Percussion should be beaten out of sound's range (10)
- 17 Half of voices died, making a gap (4)
- 18 Song in last opera transposed (9)
- 20 Bands should keep reeds in the front rows (5)21 An ill way to grate on
- a jazz singer (7)

  22 Leaders of music and
- dance consider all painters crazy (6)
- 25 Motifs from the start of The Messiah (6)
- 26 Soprano, on beat, makes loud vocal sound (6)
- 27 Dancers at middle aren't moving in a waltz step (6)
- 30 Quiet song duet (4)
- 31 Revolutionary Beatle's sound (5)



# No Handicap, Hardcase

### Three-Minute Detective

ROBERT L. LIDDIL

The residents of Sunny Valley Rest Home weren't exactly unfriendly to Inspector Hardcase and Jephro Homer, just suspicious and apprehensive. But who wouldn't have been, since they were there to investigate the murder of manager Wilbur Rossiter, who had been stabbed thirty times in the chest and back just two hours previously.

Hardcase's intent gaze scrutinized the five suspects assembled in the old-fashioned parlor. George Burke stood erect by the fireplace, blue tinted glasses obscuring his sightless eyes. Beside him Thomas Gwinn leaned heavily against Albert Mangus's wheelchair. Opposite them, on an ornate Victorian couch, sat Frieda Smith and Martha Decker.

"We're all handicapped," George explained, "so it seems unlikely that any of us could have done it. I'm blind, Albert is paralyzed, Tom is a deaf-mute, Frieda is a severe asthmatic, and Martha is deaf."

"Sorry, that doesn't eliminate any of you," Hardcase answered.

"It ought to account for me," Frieda wheezed. "I couldn't exert myself that much."

"And me!" Albert added. "I can't get out of this chair."

"Tom, too," Martha put in. "He's so gentle, he wouldn't swat a fly."

Hardcase turned toward her. "I take it you read lips."

"That's right," she answered, "but Tom communicates only by sign language. If you have anything to say to him, I'll have to translate."

Hardcase turned back to George. "You're not physically impaired," he remarked. "What would hinder you from being the killer?"

"I suppose I could be . . . if I were able to see where to stab," he responded sarcastically.

Hardcase nodded and turned back to Martha. "And your deafness is no assurance that you couldn't have done it."

Martha replied indignantly, "I was nowhere near Mr. Rossiter's office at the time of the killing. I was in the kitchen peeling potatoes when Albert and Tom told me what had happened."

Tom began signing agitatedly, "I saw George go into the office ten minutes before Mr. Rossiter's body was discovered."

George angrily responded, "That's a lie! I had nothing to do with it! I think you and Albert did it because you're both behind on your bills."

Hardcase held up his hand to still the ensuing outburst. "This bickering isn't necessary. I know who the killer is."

What told Hardcase who the killer was—and who was it?

Answer, page 10

# Cryptarithm

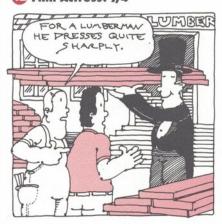
SIDNEY KRAVITZ

Each letter in this numerical cryptogram stands for a different digit from 0 to 9. Use logic and arithmetic to discover the substitutions that will turn the city names into a correct addition. The solution is unique.

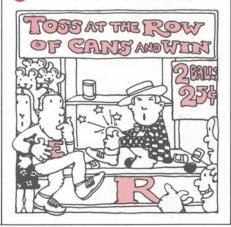
Answer, page 10

ORLANDO + PORTLAND HONOLULU

Tilm Actress: 7,4



⚠ Orchestra Conductor: 6,9





# At Wit's End

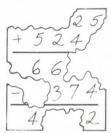
Answers, page 10

### ⚠ With a – of Salt?

What ten-letter word contains each of the letters in GRAIN exactly twice? — W.S., Brain Games 2

### I Fill the Bill

A bill figuring in an important investigation had been badly burned as shown. Can you reconstruct the respective addition and subtraction?



-Gerard Mosler, Sharpen Your Wits

### Circus Secret

When Freek's Famous Circus recently exhibited in town, the cages of the midway show were arranged as follows: 1—Tiger, 2—Panther, 3—Mystery Cage, 4—Wolf, 5—Lion. (All of these creatures were normal.)

The creatures in the five cages had a total of six heads, eighteen legs, and five tails. What was in the Mystery Cage? — John Paul Adams, We Dare You to Solve This No. 4

### Are You Able to Label?

A sweater worn in the normal way has a label on the inside of the collar. Assuming that the sleeve which accommodates the left arm when the sweater is worn normally is referred to as the left sleeve, where will the label be if the sweater is turned inside out, and the right arm is put into the left sleeve and the left arm into the right sleeve? Will it be on the inside front, inside back, outside front, or outside back? —Philip Kaplan, Posers

Do you have an original, unpublished brainteaser? Send it to "At Wit's End," The Four-Star Puzzler, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. We'll pay \$20 for each one used.